

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 026975

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 026975

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 26975 SENT ACTION DUBLIN DTD 06 FEB 75

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 026975

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EI, EEC, ETRD, IR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EC-IRANIAN PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENT

1. ON FEBRUARY 5 ASST. SEC. HARTMAN CALLED IN IRISH
AMBASSADOR MOLLOY, IN HIS CAPACITY AS AMBASSADOR OF
COUNTRY PRESENTLY IN EC CHAIR, TO REGISTER USG CONCERN
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PAGE 02 STATE 026975

OVER POSSIBLE PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN EC

AND IRAN. EXPLAINING THAT US HAD BEEN FOLLOWING ISSUE OVER PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, ASKING QUESTIONS OF EC COMMISSION, AS WELL AS IN BILATERAL CHANNELS, HARTMAN SAID USG WOULD VIEW CONCLUSION OF SUCH A PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENT AS CLEARLY UNDESIRABLE AND CONTRARY TO PROGRESS WE HAD MADE IN LOWERING TRADE BARRIERS ON MFN BASIS.

2. HARTMAN ADDED THAT SHOULD EC WISH TO DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP WITH IRAN BASED ON GENERALIZED TARIFF PREFERENCES, OR INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION, EITHER WOULD BE MORE ACCEPTABLE APPROACH. MOLLOY SAID HE WAS WELL AWARE OF US VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT ADDED THAT IT DID NOT APPEAR THAT EC WAS NEARING A DECISION. IT COULD TAKE QUITE SOME TIME, HE SAID. IN CLOSING, HARTMAN ASKED MOLLOY TO MAKE USG VIEWS KNOWN TO OTHER EC MEMBERS, AND MOLLOY AGREED.

3. MOLLOY THEN ASKED HARTMAN ABOUT THE RECENT VISIT OF BRITISH PRIME MINISTER WILSON, AND HARTMAN PROVIDED A GENERAL RUNDOWN OF THE MAJOR ITEMS DISCUSSED. KISSINGER UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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